

## **Public Comment Sought On Kinross Gold, USA Bond Release Application**

In accordance with 43 CFR 3809.590(c), the public is invited to comment on an application from Kinross Gold, USA, to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Black Rock Field Office for a final bond release on the Wind Mountain Mine, case file N-065099. Exploration activities at the site were initiated in 1989 and mining and ore processing on heap leach pads occurred until 1992, with active leaching of ore continuing until 1994.

Reclamation and closure activities at the site started in 1991, concurrent with mining activities, and were completed in 2003. Reclamation of approximately 550 acres was completed at the site. In 2008, responsibility for two remaining geothermal wells and a substation was transferred to a nearby geothermal power company, and in December 2008, Kinross Gold submitted a Final Closure request to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) for the Water Pollution Control Permit NEV88012. A joint inspection by the BLM and NDEP in July 2010, determined that reclamation of the site appeared complete, and the only remaining item was removal of a perimeter fence around the site. In April 2011, transfer of financial responsibility for the fence around the perimeter was transferred to a new operator exploring the site, and the BLM determined that the Kinross Wind Mountain Mine plan could be closed and the current financial guarantee could be released.

A bond for \$86,190 is currently in place and is scheduled for full release. As part of the Federal Regulations for bond release, the public has 30 days to comment before the bond release procedures may begin. Unless provided substantive evidence that would cause us to reconsider, our office expects to initiate release of the financial guarantee on or after July 20, 2011. If you have questions or comments about this bond release, contact Kathleen Rehberg, Geologist at 775-623-1500 or by email at [krehberg@blm.gov](mailto:krehberg@blm.gov).